Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 01633 081721Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /028 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2012

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CSCE, SHUM, RO

SUBJECT: STATUS OF ROMANIAN DISSIDENTS

REF: A) STATE 47596 (NOTAL); B) BUCHAREST 1455 (NOTAL)

1. AS OF MARCH 7 EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED RELIABLE REPORT THAT NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES ON GOMA'S ORIGINAL MANIFESTO HAS RISEN TO 59. IN ADDITION HE HAS RECEIVED LETTERS PLEDGING SUPPORT FROM TWO PEOPLE AND TELEPHONE CALLS FROM AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR NAME AND ASKED THAT THEY BE ADDED TO THE LIST. NONE OF THE NEW SIGNATORIES ARE KNOWN TO ROMANIAN PUBLIC. GOMA HAS ALSO PENNED ANOTHER DOCUMENT RELATING HIS VERSION OF MEETING WITH PARTY SECRETARY BURTICA. EMBASSY EXPECTS TO HAVE A COPY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BUCHAR 01633 081721Z

OF THIS IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. EMBOFF ALSO SPOKE MARCH 8 WITH ONE OF ORIGINAL SIGNATORIES, SERBAN STEFANESCU, WHO IS IN POSSESSION OF STATELESS PASSPORT WITH FRENCH EXIT VISA. HE ALSO HAS FRENCH VISA AND EXPECTS TO DEPART IN ABOUT A WEEK. STEFANESCU TOLD EMBOFF THAT HE HAD SPOKEN

WITH ANOTHER SIGNATORY, FEHER (STATE 47596), MARCH 7 WHO HAD CALLED HIM FROM BUCHAREST'S NORTH RAILWAY STATION. FEHER WAS ABOUT TO DEPART FOR AUSTRIA AND EXPECTED TO PROCEED FROM THERE TO CANADA. THUS, OF ORIGINAL EIGHT SIGNATORIES, ALL, EXCEPT GOMA AND HIS WIFE WHO DO NOT WANT TO GO, HAVE RECEIVED PASSPORTS AND EXPECT SHORTLY TO LEAVE COUNTRY. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN HOW MANY OF ADDITIONAL SIGNATORIES HAVE BEEN GIVEN TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.

3. SERBANESCU HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONTACT GOMA SINCE MARCH 2, ALTHOUGH HE TRIED TO ENTER GOMA'S APARTMENT BUILDING TWICE. BOTH TIMES HE WAS STOPPED BY PLAINCLOTHES POLICE. THIS LACK OF CONTACT IS PROBABLY EXPLANATION FOR GOMA'S REPORTED WORRY THAT EITHER FEHER OR SERBANESCU HAD BEEN ARRESTED. IT APPEARS THAT WHILE POLICE ARE NOT STOPPING JOURNALISTS FROM SEEING GOMA, E.G., MALCOLM BROWNE OF NEW YORK TIMES SAW HIM MARCH 7, THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO LIMIT GOMA'S CONTACT WITH ROMANIANS, AND PARTICULARLY WITH SIGNATORIES OF ORIGINAL MANIFESTO. BARNES

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